



WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 501 - SOMERSVILLE, CT 06072



OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTOR
AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLISHER OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT MATERIAL TO MEET PUBLISHING STANDARDS. UNLESS
PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON IN WRITING, ALL MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE
VHF-UHF DIGEST BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF W.T.F.D.A.

REPRODUCTION OF MATERIAL FROM THE VHF-UHF DIGEST WITHOUT PERMISSION OF
W.T.F.D.A. IS PROHIBITED. INDIVIDUALS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE GRANTED SUCH
PERMISSION PROVIDED PROPER CREDIT IS GIVEN TO THE SOURCE.

ANNUAL DUES: \$24/year: U.S. addresses
(\$26/year* to Canada
\$38/year* for airmail service to all other
U.S. funds)
countries. (*Payable in U.S. funds)

first class mail



Vhf-UhfDIGEST

The Official Publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

MAY 1998



E-Skip--It's Back!

WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION

SERVING THE VHF-UHF DX ENTHUSIAST

THE VHF-UHF DIGEST IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION, DEDICATED TO THE OBSERVATION AND STUDY OF THE PROPAGATION OF LONG DISTANCE TELEVISION AND FM BROADCAST SIGNALS AT VHF AND UHF. W.T.F.D.A. IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS: TOM BRYANT, GREG CONIGLIO, BRUCE HALL, DAVE JANOWIAK, AND BILL THOMPSON.

CIRCULATION: MIKE BUGAJ EDITOR/PUBLISHER: BILL THOMPSON
COMPTROLLER: DAVE JANOWIAK CONVENTION CO-ORDINATOR: TOM BRYANT

EDITORIAL STAFF: TOM BRYANT, GREG CONIGLIO, VICTOR FRANK, GEORGE W. JENSEN, JEFF KRUSZKA, RUSSELL MILLER, FRED NORDQUIST, MATT SITTEL, DOUG SMITH, JIM THOMAS, THOMAS J. YINGLING, JR., JOHN ZONDLO
ORIGINAL COVER DESIGN: HARRY HAYES BACK ISSUES: DAVE NIEMAN

FROM THE STAFF:

CONVENTIONS GALORE: DXers like to get together. In fact, about the time you read this, the first event will be underway.

DAYTON HAMFEST - Although this is primarily a ham radio affair, a lot of DXers will be in Dayton, OH the 15, 16 and 17 of this month. Motels are already full so be prepared to stay a good distance for the event.

WTFDA - Dave Nieman and Greg Coniglio co-host our convention July 31, August 1 and 2 at Rock City, New York (near Olean). The high country of southwestern NY promises potential tropo treats. Station tours are planned. Motel rates are very reasonable. Please check the detailed publicity page elsewhere in this issue.

NRC - The National Radio Club's annual Labor Day weekend blowout heads to San Antonio this year. Although this group's main interest is AM radio, many of their members are also active in FM and TV DXing. The club has arranged for special air fares. Station tours, sightseeing, and lots of traditional convention activities are on the agenda. For information contact John Bowker, 1811 Ft. Dusquena Drive, Sun City Center, FL 33573 or via e-mail <wa2wen@juno.com>.

IRCA - The International Radio Club of America (primarily AM DXers) will be convening August 14-16 in Missoula, Montana. For information on this "Big Sky Country" event contact Larry Godwin, 2390 Clydes Dale Lane, Missoula, MT 59804. E-mail address: <lbg@selway.umt.edu>.

MONITORING TIMES: Grove Industries of Brasstown, NC has sponsored several gatherings of radio/tv hobbyists over the years, but it appears that this year the publisher of *Monitoring Times* is going to let the tradition slide. If other information becomes available we'll let you know.

WTFDA MAILBOX
Worldwide TV-FM DX Association
P.O. Box 501, Somersville, CT 06072

MAIL CALL

Here we go with some recent renewals: Dave Nieman, Thomas Leu, Glen Jacobs, Scott Steenhausen, William Draeb, Pete Taylor, Neil Joslin, Edward Cotton, Edward Kowalski, Bill Dvorak, Bill Thompson, Joseph Smith, Pat Dyer, Carlon Howington, Gerald Hart, and Richard Steinberger. Thank you all for choosing WTFDA.

A Plea For Assistance

Here's a note from Mike Condon: "Here is a desperate cry for help. I have been trying to locate two or more Channel Master tuneable traps model #7206. They are no longer made and I have tried several suppliers. I have posted on our DX list and some good suggestions were Comark and Winegard. I am not ready to give up on Channel Master yet. I am sure someone has one or two of these things just sitting on a garage shelf somewhere." Well, if you have any of these things laying around, email Mike at michael.condon@juno.com, or mail me at P0 Box 501 and I'll get the two of you together.

MISC MAILBOX STUFF

Last month's print was a bit too small, so I have moved up to some larger print. I'm having a tough time reading some of the email addresses you folks put on your 3x5 renewal cards. There is not very much space there, so try to put your address either on the top or the bottom of the card in large letters so I can read it. If you have email and list your address, I will email you when I get your renewal check just to let you know that it got here. On a couple of occasions I have had my email bounced back to me 4 or 5 times, which caused me to yell nasty things at my modem. If you don't have email then keep looking for your name at the top of this column. And if there's any problem I will get back to you promptly.

IRC CHAT NITES...TUES & FRI 10PM EST

Remember, anyone with a computer and modem who has either 1) mIRC, 2) IRCle for Macs, or 3) term program and shell account can join us on IRCNET. Log on server irc.stealth.net port 5550 and join #wtfdfa. A darn good reason to get a computer. Drop in and join in the fun. Chances are good you'll be back for more! 3

PLAN YOUR NEXT STUPID TRIP HERE!

Gove City is a town in northwest Kansas on the high plains and has about 100 residents. Gove City is unique in that it's served by only one TV Station (KLBY-4) 50 miles away. And Gove City has no cable system since the cable TV people say it's not profitable to set up a system there. In this town you need at least a 35' tower and fringe antenna to get anything at all. About a dozen homes have satellite dishes to pick up some decent viewing, but the drawback here is that there is no local programming on the satellite so residents are not crazy about using them. Gove City has the the perfect requirements for a stupid trip. It's miles from anywhere, has no TV, almost no people and nothing to do but DX and do bandscans. You gotta love it. I could think of worse places to go. (This item based on a newspaper story sent to the Mailbox).

TO QSL, or not to QSL...THAT IS THE QUESTION

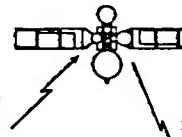
Some of us send out reception reports; some of don't. I did a long time ago and I bet many of you did too. DXers today are finding a troublesome situation. Not many stations reply anymore. Recently member Mike Condon posted a question to the DXers in the amfmtvdx@qth.net to ask why this was so. From a reply rate of 99% before the 90s, and then dropping dramatically, he felt something was wrong in the world of qsls.

Our own Tom Bryant replied to Mike, and I pass this on for all of you to digest and comment on. Tom said that to begin with, stations don't owe you a reply. Here's Toms top 5 reasons stations don't reply to your requests: 1)No time. Too few people with too much work to do. 2) They don't care. If you are outside their coverage area they don't need you. 3) Contract engineers. Since there's no chief engineer around, you will find no one person who wants to handle reports. 4). Ignorant employees. Have no clue what a reception report means and throws them in the trash. 5)Cost cutting. Budgets are so tight that there's no money to reply to you. And add to the mix that many younger engineers are computer-teck types who have minimal knowledge of rf gear. So, what do you think? If you would like to put in your two or three cents, this is the place. If you send out reports, how is your situation going? Write the Mailbox at PO Box 501 and let us know. -Mike B. ikon@netcom.com

Got a station you can't ID?? Check the FCC AM/FM Databases at www.radiostation.com. Just plug in those wierd call letters, city or frequency and get that station IDed . You can also get there from the WTFDA web site at :

www.users.sccoast.net/daustin/wtfda.html

SATELLITE NEWS



GEORGE W JENSEN
4604 ANTANA AVE
BALTIMORE MD 21206-4220

An abatement of new digital channels this time around, but a few surprises.

The recently launched PanAmSat at 58 west has lit up with an ID slide at xpdr. 22 - and also an array of digital channels running from 700 - 713. Most of these are not identifiable, but one has color bars and 710 is IDing as Union Radio - La mega - Caracas with incredibly horrible US music mix, 711 - white noise, and 712 - an all news station carrying CNN Internacional en Espanol, BBC en Espanol as well as others - location is unknown. There are also digital channels on a newly added CF satellite whose location is unknown as well as a Ku-designated bird - KF with channels 100 - 350 - no video noted - will keep you informed.

Please note that when ever I list a channel and designation it may not be "in the clear" - but has had some form of identification. Consider the array recently listed for Telstar 5. All of these are part of a TCI Cable thing and are not now in the clear or, for that matter identifiable.

A few new things -
Showtime Extreme - east - C3-104
Showtime extreme - West - G9-104
TVN Special Events - G9-390
Satellite Bingo - Anik E1 - Ku - 24 analog
The SET - Southern Entertainment Television - GE Americom 15
Outlaw Music Channel - GE Americom - 23
Telstar 5 - Ku - 100, 200, 300 - unknown programmers
CCTV - also now on Galaxy 7 752
The Box - Pulse - Galaxy 7 - 800
Oui - Telstar 402 XPDR 6
FXM - Fox Movies - now in GE 3 - XPDR 18
Saudi Arabia Television - GE2 - XPDR 20 - for the Hadj only?
delete - Spacenet 3 - The African Broadcasting Corp.

Thanks to Douglas Smith of Pleasant View, Tennessee on his info concerning Cornerstone TV's move.

A few services being proposed - as listed in Broadcasting Magazine and other assorted places -
Air and Space Network American Legal Network
The American west Network Anthropology Programming and Ent.
Anti-Aging Network Applause Arts and Antiques
The Auto Channel Automotive Television Network
Beauty Channel Black Women's TV Boating Channel
CEO Channel Channel Earth Channel 500 Chop T.V.
Children's Fashion Network Collectors Channel
A Discovery Channel Plex Do-It-Yourself Fad TV
Fashion Network Gay Entertainment TV GETv(Gaming Entertainment
The Global Channel Hobby Craft Network Home Improvement Net
Jones Health Net Lifetime Movie Network Local News Net
Locomotion Channel The Love Net Martial Arts Action Net'
The Suite from MTV and VH1 (6 services) Museum Channel
My Pet TV Net New Kid City New Investment Channel Noggin
Oasis Orb TV Outlet Mall Net Parent TV Premier Horse Net
Real Estate Net Seminar TV Share TV Toon Disney
Therapy Channel - which you will need to look at all of
these. All for now - see you in 30

George

TV NEWS

Douglas E. Smith W9WI
 1385 Old Clarksville Pike
 Pleasant View, TN 37146-8098
 w9wi@bellsouth.net
 NOTE: NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

May 1998

- *: Non-commercial station
- nc: No Change
- +/-: Channel offsets (plus, minus, zero, and none)
- z/n: minus, zero, and none
- ^: Digital TV station

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

St	Ch	ERP	Ht.	City	Applicant	Latitude	Longitude
CA	57^	100	446	San Francisco	KRON [4]	37-45-19N	122-27-06W
MA	42^	948	288	Boston	WBHD [7]	42-18-41N	71-13-00W
OH	2^	7	296	Cleveland	WKYC [3]	41-23-10N	81-41-21W
OR	46^	960	509	Portland	KGW [8]	45-31-21N	122-44-46W
PA	46^	50	293	Allentown	WFMZ [69]	40-33-52N	75-26-24W
PA	36^	50	411	Harrisburg	WITF [33]*	40-20-44N	76-52-07W
PA	42^	317.4	161	Philadelphia	WTXF [29]	40-03-33N	75-14-21W

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS GRANTED FOR NEW STATIONS

St	Ch	ERP	Ht.	City	Applicant	Latitude	Longitude
AL	24+	30.27	W24CJ	Jasper	WTTO [21]	33-28-51N	87-24-03W
AR	31+	1450	271	Harrison	Acme TV	36-26-11N	93-14-43W
CA	56+	8.15	K56GC	El Centro	TBN	32-47-10N	115-29-53W
CO	33+	5000	122.6	Durango	D. TV 33	37-15-44N	107-53-58W
FL	28^	216	438.2	W. Palm Bch	WFLEX[29]	26-34-37N	80-14-32W
IA	65-	0.512	K65HB	Cedar Rapids	Stephen Co	41-54-33N	91-39-17W
ON	36	473		Hamilton	Crossroads		
TX	69n	8.75	K69IB	El Paso	S. Warren	31-48-57N	106-29-20W
TX	2+	100	334	Fredericksb.	CorridorTV	30-17-57N	98-56-16W
TX	50n	0.15	K50FF	Raymondvil.	A. Ortiz	26-28-32N	97-48-30W
TX	26-	5000	560	Uvalde	S TX Visi	29-37-11N	99-02-55W
WA	34-	3260	356	Spokane	Paxson	46-36-04N	117-17-53W
WI	46z	3000	150	Antigo	Cardinal	45-22-50N	89-11-22W
WY	11+	316	316	Jackson	RM Comms.	43-27-40N	110-45-09W

The Ontario station becomes Canada's second (and most powerful) religious TV station. Crossroads produces the "100 Huntley Street" program which I've seen on my local WHTN-39. (and I believe airs throughout Canada?) A competing application for a Toronto religious station was denied, for non-technical reasons. WFLX-DT's power appears in the FCC Public Notices as 21601KW, obviously a typo. It's correct in the database, as 216.01KW.

New-station permits expired, dismissed, etc.:

St	City	Ch	# permits	St	City	Ch	# permits
AZ	Sierra Vista	35	1	SD	Rapid City	21	1
AZ	Tucson	68	1	TX	Fort Worth	61	1
AZ	Yuma	36	1	TX	Fredericksburg	2	8
AR	Harrison	31	3	TX	Uvalde	26	1
CA	Cupertino	24	1	WA	Spokane	34	11
CO	Durango	33	2	WI	Antigo	46	5
IA	Cedar Rapids	58	1	WI	Wausau	33	1
MO	Joplin	65	1	WY	Jackson	11	3

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING FACILITIES

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
CA	46	4.03	K11RL	Litchfield	40-26-47N	120-21-24W	
CO	49	2.78	K33AE	Cortez			
CO	48	15.7	K33DN	Denver	39-43-59N	105-14-12W	
IL	7z			WLS-TV	Chicago	41-52-44N	87-38-08W
LA	8+			KNOE-TV	Monroe	32-11-50N	92-04-14W
MO	4-		343	KMOV	St. Louis		
NJ	69	3.9		W36BJ	Atl. City		
OH	39+	84		W35BA	Cincinnati		

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING FACILITIES

St	66	6		W21AI	Portsmouth		
OR	8-	240		KGW	Portland		
QU	4z	0.238	nc	CBMCT	Chibougamau	49-52-29N	74-23-00W
QU	5+	0.575	nc	CBFAT	Chibougamau		

WLS and KNOE's changes are correction of coordinates; the towers have not actually moved. KGW's change is for an auxiliary backup transmitter, not the main unit. W35BA's application is contrary to information in the April VUD which suggested the station would surrender its license and go dark.

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
CO	32-	22.2		K32EO	Colo. Springs		
IA	56+	20		K30EN	Ames	41-58-49N	93-44-24W
IA	46-	150		K23DM	Des Moines		
MI	40+	13.5		WMKG-LP	Muskegon		
MT	10+	217	711	KBCC	Helena	46-49-35N	111-42-33W
NC	52z	7.3		W52CW	Charlotte		
NM	19-		480	KADO	Santa Fe	35-24-44N	106-43-32W
NV	21+			KUPN	Las Vegas	36-00-28N	115-00-25W
NV	47+	0.03		KUVR-LP	Reno		
NY	26-	9.66		WNGN-LP	Troy	42-47-08N	73-37-45W
NY	27+			W27BJ	Utica	43-02-09N	75-11-10W
ON	12	86		CHCH-2	London		
TX	28+	40		K17EK	Brownsville	25-58-58N	97-30-39W
TX	59+			K59FQ	Victoria	28-46-44N	96-57-39W
UT	60z	16.1		K60GA	Provo	40-16-41N	111-55-58W
UT	21z			K21FY	Spanish Fork	40-16-41N	111-55-58W
WV	53-	50.08		W53BJ	Charleston	38-22-32N	81-39-25W

The KPIX-DT application is to change from channel 28 to channel 29. KUVR-LP's power must be a typo (probably actually 30KW) as the transmitter output is 10KW. I don't know why they want to change on channel 47 right after completing a move to channel 68. CHCH-TV-2 was originally authorized channel 51. I don't know the offset on channel 12. A directional antenna will probably be required to protect WICU Erie, PA and possibly WJRT Flint, MI. (Ontario DXers, it could have been worse: there were rumors they'd planned to move to channel 3 instead!)

CHANGES GRANTED TO EXISTING FACILITIES

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
AL	54z	1260	603	WZDX	Huntsville	43-38-00N	86-30-47W
CA	68-	2		KNLA-LP	Los Angeles		
CA	55n	9.29		K55AP	Sta. Barbara		
FL	43+	2265	303	NBSF	Melbourne		
GA	53-	11.5		W53BR	Fayetteville	33-46-15N	84-23-10W
ME	21n	15		W21BI	Farmington	44-39-24N	70-11-52W
MO	26-	113.2	292	KOZJ*	Joplin		
NC	2z		472	WUND-TV	Columbia		
NM	61z	18		K61EQ	Albuquerque		
NV	44n	16.2		K44BE	Fallon		
OK	66-	38.65		K66EK	Bartlesville		
UT	36n	0.2567		K36DZ	Laketown		
WY	33-	2951	134	KKTU	Cheyenne		

W53BR moves from W22AH Columbus, GA. The antenna will be on the Nations Bank Building in Atlanta.

Changes expired, dismissed, etc.:

St	City	Ch	Call	st	City	Ch	Call
CA	Arroyo Gde.	8	K08MD	CA	Lompoc	19	K19DE
CA	Monterey	43	K67EU	CA	Sacramento	35	K62DO
CO	Cortez	49	K33AE	KY	Talbert	64	W14CC
LA	Baton Rouge	50	K13VE	ME	Bangor	17	W17BF
NJ	Camden	49	W68CV	VT	Burlington	30	W30BL

CHANGES GRANTED TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
AR	42z	3400	334	KYFX	Little Rock	34-47-56N	92-29-44W
CA	33-	24.38		K33EG	Bishop	37-22-32N	118-23-37W
CA	32z	24.1		K32EQ	Fresno	37-04-13N	119-25-31W
CO	32-	22.2		K32EO	Colo. Springs		
LA	40z	14.1		K40DZ	Lafayette		
MI	40+	13.5		WMKG	Muskegon		
MS	69z	2.42		W69DY	Tunica		
NC	52z	7.3		W52CW	Charlotte		
ND	2+			K02PD	Fargo	46-52-58N	96-47-44W
NY	26-	9.66		WNGN	Troy	42-47-08N	73-37-45W
OK	61n	0.559		K61BY	Altus	34-38-20N	99-21-19W
TX	69n	6.34		K69FW	Clear Lake C.	29-35-33N	95-03-11W
UT	39n			K39DH	Ogden	41-09-57N	112-00-52W
UT	60z	16.1		K60GA	Provo	40-16-41N	111-55-58W

The Altus, Oklahoma changes also apply to K63BE, K65BF, K67BO, and K69EP.

TECHNICAL CHANGES ON THE AIR

St	Ch	Call	City	What happened
AK	9n	K09OT	Valdez	huge power & minor tower height increases, move a few meters NW.
AR	22-	KKYK-LP	Little Rock	negligible power decrease.
CA	53z	K53DU	Hemet	moderate power decrease.
CA	67n	K67AO	Ridgecrest	huge power increase, minor tower height decrease.
FL	56z	WOPX	Melbourne	moderate power & tower height increases, move about 50km NW.
IN	69+	W69BT	South Bend	moderate power & tower height increases, move about 25km NNW.
MI	40+	WMKG-LP	Muskegon	moderate power & tower height increases; move from no offset; move about 9km northeast.
NC	33z	WUNF-TV*	Asheville	moderate power & tower height increases, go elliptical polarization
NM	57n	K57AB	Colfax	minor power decrease.
NM	64z	K64FB	Portales	moderate power increase & tower height decrease; move a few meters southeast.
NV	68+	KUVR-LP	Reno	move from ch. 47+; huge power decrease & tower height increase; move about 30km south-southwest.
OR	66n	K66EJ	Newberg	major power increase.
GU	46z	CKMI-TV-1	Montreal	moderate power increase.
SD	24n	KKRA-LP	Rapid City	huge power & moderate tower height increases; move about 5km north.
TN	39z	WYHB-LP	Chattanooga	moderate power & tower height increases; move about 6km NE.
TX	49-	KBVO-LP	Austin	moderate power & large tower height increases; move about 10km NW.
UT	35n	K35EW	Heber	Move from channel 9.
UT	32n	K32EJ	Woodland	Huge power increase.
WA	60n	K60FX	Kennewick	moderate power increase.
WA	39-	K39DL	Moses Lake	moderate power decrease.

NEW STATIONS GRANTED/REQUESTING OPERATING LICENSES OR NOTED ON THE AIR

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
AL	50+	24.6		W50BO	Ashville	33-47-51N	86-12-45W
AR	42z	3400	334	KYFX	Little Rock	34-47-56N	92-29-44W
AZ	13	?		K13XC	Whiteriver	?	?
CA	9-	0.065		K09WI	Bakersfield	35-22-08N	119-00-14W
CA	25-	21.5		K25FT	Bakersfield	35-22-08N	119-00-14W
CA	18z	14.3		K18FF	S Luis Obispo	35-21-38N	120-39-21W
CO	47+	0.05		K47FJ	Manitou Sprs.	38-51-50N	104-54-48W
FL	67z	3980	128	WPXP	Lake Worth	26-45-47N	80-12-19W

NEW STATIONS GRANTED/REQUESTING OPERATING LICENSES OR NOTED ON THE AIR

FL	25-	5000	201	WJXX	Orange Park	30-04-27N	81-48-23W
GA	52+	13.3		W52CL	Macon	32-45-09N	83-33-35W
HI	18^	5.4	-180	KHVO-DT	Hilo	19-43-57N	155-04-04W
HI	40^	8.5	1	KITV-DT	Honolulu	21-17-37N	157-50-34W
KS	21-	191	76	KDCX*	Dodge City	37-49-30N	100-10-36W
LA	40z	11.8		K40DZ	Lafayette	30-02-54N	91-59-49W
LA	24+	1		K24EO	Rayville	32-27-22N	91-39-27W
LA	26-	1		K26EV	Rayville	32-27-22N	91-39-27W
MT	11+	3.02	631	KUFM-TV*	Missoula	46-48-09N	113-58-21W
NE	61z	0.17		K61GA	Omaha	41-15-28N	95-56-20W
NM	29+	0.133		K29DP	Lordsburg	32-18-58N	108-45-18W
NV	31+	10.4		K31DO	Las Vegas	35-58-04N	115-30-03W
NV	31+	1.33		K31DO	Las Vegas	35-56-43N	115-02-32W
NV	47z	18.9		K47EG	Laughlin	35-14-58N	114-44-34W
NY	39+	38.8		W39CE	Glens Falls	43-01-13N	73-31-27W
NY	16z	4.4		W16BE	Hornell	42-16-05N	77-37-51W
OH	40-	90		W40AM	Masury	41-11-58N	80-31-22W
OK	53z	1780	182	KNMJ	Tulsa	36-02-34N	95-57-11W
PA	62-	8.61		W62CS	Williamsport	41-13-08N	76-57-27W
SC	40+	17.1		W40AW	Beaufort	32-24-05N	80-44-21W
TX	9^	18.6	527	WFAA-DT	Dallas	32-35-06N	96-58-41W
TX	41^	910	424	KXAS-DT	Fort Worth	32-35-07N	96-58-06W
TX	31+	38.4		K31EX	San Antonio	29-26-30N	98-30-28W
TX	22+	9		K22FE	Wichita Falls	33-53-50N	98-32-33W
VT	49-	0.13		W49BU	Manchester	43-09-56N	73-06-59W

KHVO-DT becomes the first digital TV station to request an operating license. K13XC in Arizona doesn't appear in the FCC database.

New wireless-cable systems on the air:

Andalusia, Alabama 31-20-27N 86-28-02W all 1kW, z offset except W49BM which is + W198B W36BQ W40BE W49BM W57CC W58CQ W65CW

Iowa Falls, Iowa 42-20-10N 93-28-00W K19DX (19-, 1.24KW) K33ED (33-, 1.34KW) K47EK (47+, 1.61KW) K49DZ (49+, 0.77KW) K55GV (55-, 0.8KW) K59FM (59+, 0.8KW) K61GF (61-, 0.731KW) K69GZ (69+, 1.77KW)

Rock Springs, Wyoming 41-29-50N 109-20-36W all 1kW, + offset K14JG K18ER K20FA K30EQ K48FE K56FW K58EW K64EP

STATIONS DELETED/DISMISSED/ETC.

St:	Call:	St:	Call:	St:	Call:	St:	Call:
CA	K16CW	IA	K69HK	ME	W56DD	NC	W40BF
CA	K48DY	IA	K26ER	ME	W54CB	NJ	W44AS
FL	W14CA	LA	K47FC	MT	K64ER	NJ	W44BA
FL	W33BI	LA	K30FC	MT	K68ER	TX	K25ES
IA	K44EU	MD	W52AS	NC	W16BM	TX	K63GD

Emie Wesolowski reports K53EY Omaha (a TBN) off the air in mid-March.

CALL CHANGES

Was:	Now:	City:	Ch	Was:	Now:	City:	Ch
KNEB	KUBD	Ketchikan, AK	4	K22CQ	KMNO-LP	Monroe, LA	22
KVUT	KYFX	Little Rock, AR	42	K15EG	KADO-LP	Shreveport, LA	15
New	KBCZ	Holbrook, AZ	11	W04AK	WGCI-LP	Waterville, ME	4
KAJW	KPPK	Tolleson, AZ	51	KBCC	KMTF	Helena, MT	10
K68EP	KQJA-LP	Fresno, CA	68	K59ER	KVPX-LP	Las Vegas, NV	59
K26CO	KGEC-LP	Redding, CA	26	K47CO	KUVR-LP	Reno, NV	47
New	KPMR	Santa Barbara, CA	38	WMGC	W1VT	Binghamton, NY	34
New	KBDM	Yreka City, CA	20	W27BO	WJOS-LP	Pomeroy, OH	27
WIRB	WOPX	Melbourne, FL	56	K31EM	KWEM-LP	Stillwater, OK	31
WCID	WPXN	Miami, FL	35	KJLF	KKWB	El Paso, TX	65
W53HI	WSWB-LP	Valdosta, GA	53	KSGI	KXIV	Cedar City, UT	4
New	KBDL	Pocatello, ID	31	KOOG	KUPX	Ogden, UT	30
WCFC	WCPX	Chicago, IL	38	KZAR	KUWB	Provo, UT	16

CALL CHANGES

WFHL	WCPX	Decatur, IL	23	WJCB	WPXV	Norfolk, VA	49
WCPX	WPXU	Decatur, IL	23	WI4BN	WXOB-LP	Richmond, VA	14
WS1BU	WIPX-LP	Indianapolis, IN	51	KBGE	KWPX	Bellevue, WA	33
New	KBDR	Hoisington, KS	14				

WFHL [23] changed to WCPX, then changed their mind & decided to get WPXU instead. (freeing up WCPX for use at a co-owned Chicago station) Again, all the PX stations are with the new PaxNet network, and the KBD-calls were randomly assigned by the FCC. (and will probably be changed before the stations go on the air.) For what it's worth, as of late March, 511 LPTV stations had replaced their alphanumeric calls with -LP calls. That's a little over 7% of all LPTVs.

PROGRAMMING CHANGES

Call:	Location:	Programming:
K49DF	Phoenix, AZ	sold to KUSK [7].
K55FU	Escondido, CA	sold to 3ABN.
WEVU-LP [7]	Fort Myers, FL	to UPN.
WBSP-LP [9]	Naples, FL	to UPN.
WTVK [46]	Naples, FL	from UPN to WB.
WNMG-TV [34]	Athens, GA	sold to HSC.
K07WE	Baton Rouge, LA	sold to KMCT [39], religious
K40DZ	Lafayette, LA	religious.
K22CQ	Monroe, LA	sold to Great Oaks, owners of ANC, UPN, and WB affiliate LPTVs elsewhere in Louisiana.
KCWB [29]	Kansas City, MO	from WB to UPN.
KSMO [62]	Kansas City, MO	from UPN to WB.
W20BP	Natchez, MS	sold to KMCT [39], religious
K42EO	Missoula, MT	sold to TBN.
K61GA	Omaha, NE	new, 3ABN.
K30FH	Las Cruces, NM	sold to KRPV [27], TBN.
KTLC [43]	Oklahoma City, OK	sold to UPN.
KBSP-TV [22]	Salem, OR	sold to PaxNet.
W54AQ	Yauco, PR	sold to WCCV [54], religious.
KTRG [10]	Del Rio, TX	UPN. (and Fox?)
K52FR	Harlingen, TX	Worship/NL.
K30FF	La Feria, TX	Spanish-language religion.
K32ER	McAllen, TX	off the air.
K67HC	McAllen, TX	Spanish religion // K30FF.
K55GJ	Raymondville, TX	Spanish religion // K30FF.
KMOL-TV [4]	San Antonio, TX	dropped UPN, now NBC only.
K59FQ	Victoria, TX	Univision.
W42BE	Fairfax, VA	sold to religious organization (former owners of WTKK [66] Manassas)

OTHER STUFF

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 required the FCC to, every two years, review its multiple-ownership regulations. The Commission has issued a Notice of Inquiry asking for comments on seven specific regulations:

- National TV Ownership Rule.** This rule limits one owner to stations reaching 35% of all TV homes. (but only half of these homes count for a UHF station, see below)
- UHF Television Discount.** This policy means that only half the viewers to a UHF station count when determining whether an owner is exceeding the 35% of the national audience it's allowed to reach with multiple stations.
- Dual Network Rule.** This rule prohibits common ownership of any two of the major TV networks (ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC), or of any one of the major networks and either of the minor networks. (UPN, WB)
- Daily Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule.** This rule prohibits one company from owning a daily newspaper and a radio or TV station in the same city. (however, it's frequently waived)
- Cable/TV Cross-Ownership Rule.** This rule prohibits ownership of a TV station and cable system in the same market.
- Local Radio Ownership Rules.** (as the name suggests, these don't affect TV)
- Experimental Broadcast Station Multiple Ownership Rule.** This limits how many experimental broadcast stations may be licensed to the same owner.

10 Separate proceedings are already considering the **Television Duopoly Rule** (which prohibits a company from owning two or more TV stations with overlapping "Grade B" signals) and the **One-to-a-Market Rule**.

(which prohibits common ownership of a radio and TV station in the same market. This rule is often waived.)

Many TV engineers are discovering some surprises in the new digital tables – their stations are being required to use directional antennas for their DTV operations. Some of these DTV patterns are extremely tight, and some engineers fear it may not actually be possible to build the antennas required. Under the existing regulations, the nulls in the directional pattern of a TV transmitting antenna may not exceed 10dB. (15dB for UHF) I've plotted a few DTV patterns using data off the FCC Web Page, and they're reminiscent of patterns used at AM stations! (if you aren't familiar with AM directional antennas, many have nulls of 30dB or more - sometimes so much more that there are places where you can see the transmitting antenna but can't hear the station!)

Note that a CP has now been granted for the long-awaited new channel 2 in Fredericksburg, Texas. Whether a NTSC facility will actually be built on this channel is a good question.

Please note my new email address. The old Compuserve address will be phased out soon. Thanks to Chip Kelley, Fernando Garcia, Ernie Wesolowski, and Mike Lazaro for information appearing elsewhere in this month's column. According to Chip, KXAS-DT [41] began operation on the last day of March with the Texas Rangers' home opener.

FORUM

Jeff Kadet, Macomb IL:

Jeff has some information on TV in Indonesia. The country has six TV networks:

- **Televisi Republik Indonesia (TVRI)**
- **Rajawali Citra Televisi Indonesia (RCTI)**
- **Andalas Televisi (AN-TV)**
- **Indosair**
- **Surya Citra Televisi (SCTV)**
- **Televisi Pendidikan Indonesia (TPI)**

TPI, RCTI, and Indosair carry non-Western programming and are heavily Islamic. The other stations carry a variety of American and other Western programs (including Ricki Lake, which Jeff found quite surprising in such a conservative country). Also aired are soap operas, a *Family Feud* clone called *Famli 100*, many children's shows, and "Hindi movies badly dubbed into English with Bahasa Indonesian subtitles."

An evening newscast is carried on all six networks in parallel. Normally, stations sign off around 1am. But during Idul Fitri (an Islamic celebration of the end of Ramadan), they stay on all night. My understanding is this is common practice for broadcast stations in all Islamic countries. Indonesian TV is fully commercial, with most ads for household products and beauty aids. Jeff's motel room sported a rather unusual TV antenna. I've forwarded the photo he shot to Jeff Kruszka for Photo News; maybe one of our members can identify it?

Fernando Garcia, Monterrey NL:

The bilingual religious LPTV network in south Texas has changed its name from "Family Television Network" to "La Familia Television Network". K30FF, K55GJ, and K67HC operate in parallel with Spanish-language religion, though the ID doesn't mention K55GJ. K52FR shows "La Familia Television Network" on their ID too, but programming is Worship and Network 1.

Danny Caglethorpe, Shreveport LA:

Danny sent more excellent ID photos, especially from Mexico. He also sent word his local LPTV K15EG seems to be on regular schedule now, with NET. Another item from the Shreveport Times hints at the programming of KNTS-LP [17] Natchitoches. The station expects to be on the air about the time you read this. A satellite network is planned, but the station manager wouldn't tell the paper which one.

DX ETC.

Congratulations to Sheldon Remington on his record-breaking tropo reception! To the best of my knowledge, this exceeds by over 1000km the longest tropospheric reception ever reported, on any frequency and by any radio service. One has to wonder, how much further can this duct go? Honduras? When will someone in California log a Hawaiian station?

73 Doug

PHOTO-NEWS

Jeff Kruszka, Editor
5024 S. Braxton Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70817
JTKruszka@worldnet.att.net

May 1998

It's been a lukewarm tropo season here in Baton Rouge, but maybe not where you're from. If you've taped some DX or photographed it off-air, why not send it in? We need your photos! Here's some more fantastic E-skip from the summer of '97, from Dxpert Danny Oglethorpe, Shreveport, LA:



YSR-2 San Salvador, ES
1324 mi Es seen 9/21/97
@1029 CT
"Tele Dos"



YSR-2 San Salvador, ES
1324 mi Es seen 9/21/97
@1029 CT
"2 wrapped around globe"



WDTV-5 Weston, WV
876 mi Es seen 5/31/97
@2140 CT

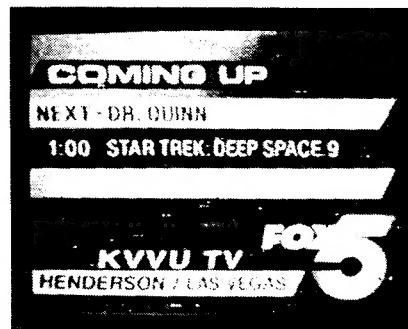


WTVH-5 Syracuse, NY
1212 mi Es seen 8/4/97
@1120 CT

Photo News

May 1998

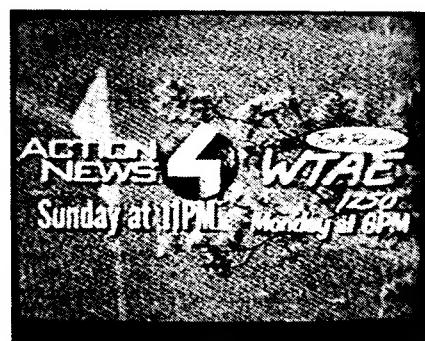
Page 2



KVVU-5 Henderson, NV
1238 mi Es seen 6/25/97
@1359 CT



KHMT-4 Hardin, MT
1184 mi Es seen 7/20/97
@ 1110 CT
"The Best of Billings"



WTAE-4 Pittsburgh, PA
945 mi Es seen 8/1/97
@1759 CT



XHATU-5 Aitonilco, JAL
1000 mi Es seen 12/11/96
@1420 CT
"Those Mexicans and their ever-creative ID's, hll-jtk"

73's, Jeff

Welcome to
CHANNEL 3
CFCN
CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA



BREAK TIME

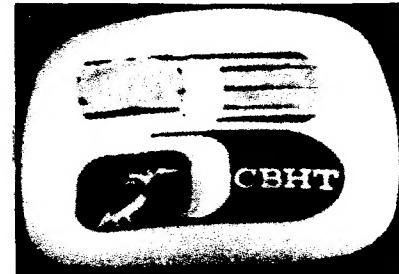
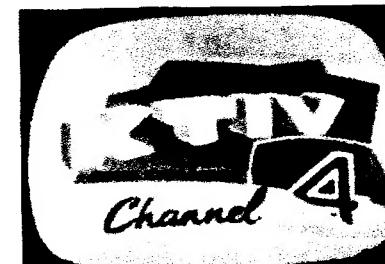
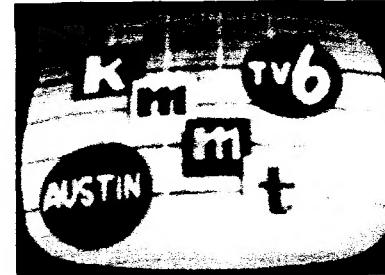
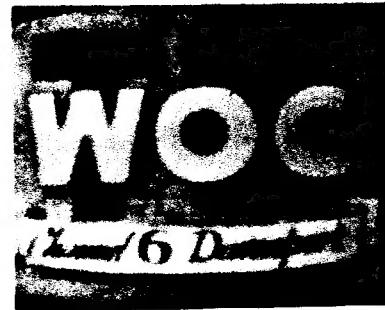
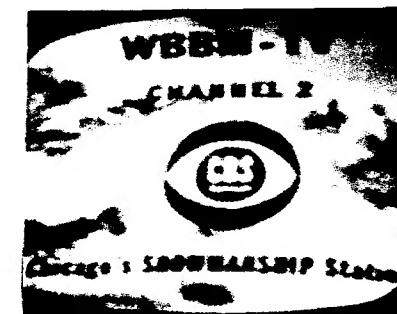
If you've ever rubbed elbows with Bill Eckberg at a WTFDA convention, you've probably seen part of his enormous collection of ID, color bar, and test pattern slides.

From his northwestern Illinois location, he has clicked the shutter almost 3500 times. No matter that some are less than perfect; they're a DXer's dream...and many are historic.

Bill was kind enough to bring his collection to Nashville so I could scan, store and digitally enhance them as much as possible.

The 12 featured this month are some of my personal favorites from Bill's arsenal. All of these shots are between 35 and 45 years old. The staff artists are the stars as we recall an e-skip visit from KSL-tv in Salt Lake City; a child in a garden for KGLO-tv in Mason City; WBBM-tv in Chicago takes a plain-Jane approach; and KSTP-tv in St. Paul/Minneapolis features its' studio and tower.

The shots on the next page speak for themselves...but look carefully at the last one. KWK-TV (4) in St. Louis was the original call for the CBS station which was later owned by the network as KMOX-TV and is now KMOV. Thanks Bill!



Southern FM DX

John Zondlo
4009 Driftwood Circle
Yukon, OK 73099
E-mail: Jpzondlo@aol.com
Deadline: 10th

May 1998

For DXers in AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, KS, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, NV, OK, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV and Mexico

Check out FM DX Web! [Http://members.aol.com/fmdxweb](http://members.aol.com/fmdxweb)

Doug Smith - W9WI
1385 Old
Clarksville Pike
Pleasant View, TN
37146-8088
w9wi@bellsouth.net
CST


John Zondlo
4009 Driftwood Circle
Yukon, OK 73099
Jpzondlo@aol.com
CST

Technics ST-G50 tuner, big Radio Shack VHF-TV antenna at 15'

A little bit of DX last month, for the first time in ages. Also a new logging, the "dirty" way.

3/22 gw
???? WNPL 106.7 TN Belle Meade, new local 20
3/26 Tr 0614 KDBB 104.3 MO Bonne Terre, Farmington ad 215
0650 KTXR 101.3 MO Springfield 328
0650 KYKY 98.1 MO St. Louis 233
0658 KHCR 97.7 MO Potosi 229
0701 KXOK 97.1 MO Florissant 259

WAMB-FM-1, the "FM translator of an AM station" in Donelson went silent for a few weeks after being bumped by WNPL. It's now turned up on 98.7. Haven't logged it from home yet, WHOP-FM (KY) is too strong. Also, I think I'm hearing the new American Family station in Lawrenceburg on 90.7, but they don't seem to be too fond of IDing on the hour, and I'm not willing to listen for a full hour to try to figure out when they do ID.

From the Editor



Kind of a light month, report-wise. Hopefully you're getting some DX now with the season well underway.

Thanks to so many of you for your comments about FM DX Web. Hopefully it'll benefit your FM DXing experience. And be sure to join a bunch of your fellow WFTDAers in our IRC chat room Tuesday and Friday evenings as we catch up on what's being heard.

Catch y'all next month!

AM-FM-PSB-TV DX Legend Passes Away

Henry Scofield Holbrook or "Hank" as he was known to his friends, died of leukemia on April 15 at the age of 69 in the Washington Hospital Center. He lived in Tracy's Landing, MD.

Hank was an avid DXers (all band/DC to light) and chased after wallpaper like no other in our hobby. He DXed it all and collected QSLs from everything he heard. VHF draw bridges, ships, broadcasters, TISs, VHF/UHF comms, etc. If Hank could hear it, he would QSL it.

He supported clubs, commercial magazines and other organizations with his information and insight.

Please take a second or two today to remember the passing of a great DX'er.

WESTERN TV-DX

May 1998

Victor Frank
12450 Skyline Blvd.
Woodside, CA 94062-4554
e-mail frank@horizon.sri.com
(650)851-7031

Dennis Park Smith, 3703 Dixon Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2419 (805)687-7803

This report is for March 1998.

There was not nearly as much rain/stormy conditions as there was in February. February was devoid of southern-CA coastal tropo on TV-FM until the end of the month. March was a little better, as the storms were further apart, allowing air to stabilize occasionally somewhat into layers for ducting.

Feb. 28:	Very Poor
Mar. 1:	Poor to fair
Mar. 2:	Fair to poor
Mar. 3-7:	No tropo (a little rain Mar. 5 eve)
Mar. 8-9:	Poor
Mar. 10:	No tropo
Mar. 11:	Very poor
Mar. 12:	Poor
Mar. 13-18:	No tropo (a little rain Mar. 13 eve)
Mar. 19:	Eve, very poor
Mar. 20:	Poor
Mar. 21:	Poor to fair
Mar. 22:	Fair
Mar. 23:	Poor
Mar. 24:	Very poor to none (rain Mar. 24 eve-25)
Mar. 25-31:	No tropo (rain Mar. 31)

Best of DX to all Dennis

Danny Oglethorpe, P.O. Box 6688, Shreveport, LA 71136-6688

March 1998	UTC
14 tr 1045 Biloxi 13,19	319
WXXV 25MS	309
Mobile 15 (o/KADO), 21	355
1110 WJTC 44FL Bars	
24 tr 0415 Valley 4,5,7,9,17,23,44,48	491-513 mi
0550 Corpus Christi 10,16	385
0629 WXXV 25MS	309
0755 San Antonio 5,29,41	347
0845 WLOX 13MS	319
Went to bed	
1450 WPMI 15AL o/KADO	355
1505 KORO 28TX	385
25 tr 0030 Same stations as previous night	
0255 XHMTAt 11TA Spanish	
0335 KAVU 25TX	314
0420 unID 22 Spanish o/KLTJ; SW	
0650 KYPX 42AR "Info Mall"	183
0730 San Antonio/Kerville 23, 25	
0815 KTAB 32TX	348
KJTL 18TX Shop at home	293
Went to bed	
1300 Oklahoma City VHF and UHF	303
1315 KOVC 36TX ID bars	505
KAMC 28TX	476
1338 unID 44 Infomercial; NW	

1345 KJTV 34 TX	476
1420 Lubbock 5, 11, 13	476
26tr 0359 KRBC 9TX	348
0415 unID 8TX Note #1	
0510 KGNS 8TX	481
28Es 0210 XHAGU 2AGS XEQ	896
unID 2 XEW	
0240 XHFM 2VER "Televisa Veracruz"	950
28tr 1455 KLRN 9TX	347
KGNS 8TX	481
29tr 0720 KOLR 10MO	335
0835 KRBC 9TX KRBC/KACB ID card	348
0845 KFDX 3TX Local off	293
0945 Oklahoma City 4, 5, 9	
1045 KSWO 7OK	309
1115 KMID 2TX	487
KAUZ 6TX ID card	293
1145 KWES 9TX ID at bottom	505
KTAB 32TX	348

April 1998 UTC
1 tr 1310 WXXV 25MS 309

Note #1--This station was running a drama while most other stations were airing news. They ran a promo for "Eyewitness News 4."

The independent channel 5 from Jalisco that Jeff Kruszka and I saw in December is from Guadalajara. Fernando Garcia's fine detective work identified the station's location. According to Fernando, XEDK-6 has discontinued operation.

Fernando has also confirmed my reception of XEFE-2 Nuevo Laredo. He recognized the veterinary clinic street name and the Arena Palenque Expomex. Many, many thanks to Fernando!

My new local LPTV channel 15 runs IDs on the hour. The calls are KADO. Slogan is "The news channel for Shreveport." Their programming is America's Choice.

Reception of the west Texas stations marks my first tropo west of Abilene since Thanksgiving week 1996!

Fernando Garcia, San Salvador 415, Rincon de la Sierra, 67181 Cd Guadalupe, NL, MEXICO
Equipment:

Sony KV-27EXR15, Screened CM 7 dish 85', RG 11, UA900 amp. Sony KV-13TR27, CM 1110 30', CM 8 bay UHF array 60'.

1800' ASL, No re-logs in the same month, only tropo 500+ miles.

EASTERN TV DX

May, 1998

Russell Miller
HC 61, Box 86B
N. Amity, ME 04471-9622
email address - estvdx@ainop.com

LOCAL TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Roy Barstow, P.O. Box 2488, Teaticket, MA 02536

January, 1998

25 Ms	0517	WUNC	4 NC	3/4 CB	607
	0536	WTAE	4 PA	R.S.	488
27 Ms	0529	WRC	4 DC	R.S.	387
30 Ms	0340	WPVI	6 PA	on ICOM	265

February, 1998

01 Ms	0515	KMTV	3 NE		1311
	America's Store - Call L/R				
	0525	WCIA	3 IL		936
02 Tr	0230	CBHT-3	11 NS		279
	1900	WQAV	34 NJ		240
	Shopping 24 hrs				
	2230	W45BG	45 VA		455
	2300	W36BK	36 VA		400
04 Ms	0605	WCAX	3 VT		231
08 Tr	1930	E. VA. Plus			
	WSFX	26 NC			660
	WUNJ	39 NC			660
09 Tr	1300 to 1900				
	WPXQ	69 RI	3/4 C.B.		
	1800	WHPX	26 CT		102
10 Tr	pm	WPBX	46 MA		40
	WPX	43 CT			131
	WPXB	60 NH			108
	New Calls Last 5				

13 Ms 0303 WUNC 4 NC 3/4 C.B. 607

14 Ms 0549 WAVE 3 KY Card 834

20 Ms 0036 WWAY 3 NC 660

0505 WAVE 3 KY 834

21 Ms 0458 WSIL 3 IL 1007

0657 WWAY 3 NC 660

23 Ms 0615 WSAV 3 GA R/S News 883

24 Ms 0622 WWAY 3 NC 660

25 Ms 0046 WBTV 3 NC 715

0611 WSAV 3 GA 883

0611 WWAY 3 NC same burst 660

28 Ms 0416 KIMT 3 IA 3/4 C.B. 1035

March, 1998

01 Ms 0410 CITO 3 ON 706

0420 KMTV 3 NE 1311

03 Ms 0614 WPSX 3 PA 407

WPSX TV PS on 3/4 C.B.

0648 WTKR 3 VA 455

0707 WJMN 3 MI 870

Promo for Alaska

05 Ms 0542 CBFT2 3 PQ 426

CBVT2 3 PQ 416

Same meteor

07 Ms	0345	WCIA	3 IL		936
	0430	CITO	3 ON		706
	0545	WSIL	3 IL		1007
08 Ms	0654	KIMT	3	3/4 C.B.	1035
16 Ms	0607	WYFF	4 SC		787
18 Ms	0242	WUNC	4 NC		607
19 Ms	0037	WRC	4 DC		387
23 Gw		WPXQ	69 RI		
	now on 24 hrs.				

On March 5, using the Quantum Ant. pointed NW with a clear horizon, picked up test pattern SRC/CBC with Montreal on top. 12 frames then nothing for 10 frames, then 10 more frames of test pattern. CBFT2-3 uses a dir. ant. NW, CBVT2-3 uses a dir. ant. west. The meteor for this reception being somewhere over north On. The meteor reflected the NW beam of CBFT2-3 On. first and then interrupted the west beam of CBVT2-3 on. No zilched frames here, its simply elementary, dear Watson.

Doug Smith, 1385 Old Clarksville Pike, Pleasant View, TN 37146 email - w9wi@bellsouth.net

March, 1998

26 Tr	0530	KYTV	3 MO Springfield	328
		WHL	46 (MO) E St.Louis IL	232
	0535	KXLN	45 TX Rosenberg	678
		KTHV	11 AR Little Rock	323
	0606	KOLR	10 MO Springfield	329
	also KOZK-21, KSPR-33			
	0700	WICS	20 IL Springfield	268
	73 Doug			

Editors Report (2-low band-5' above ground+PA)

March, 1998

09 Ms	0554	WTvh	5 NY		453
10 Ms	0412	WCYBTv	5 VA		982
11 Ms	0413	CJCHtv	5 NS		225
	0626	WLWT	5 OH		969
12 Ms	0552	CBNT3	5 NF		612
15 Ms	0604	CHRO	5 ON		444
17 Ms	0632	CBC	5 ON	3/4s	
21 Ms	0516	MCTV	5 ON	Slide	
23 Ms	0151	WNEM	5 MI		801
24 Ms	0522	CAFT	5 NB		90
27 Ms	0552	WRAL	5 NC		897
29 Ms	0139	WDTV	5 WV		798
	0150	WTG	5 DC		672

Western TV DX F. Garcia's report begins

March 4 CST
0530 KAMC 28 TX Lubbock ABC News, 8, loc out 553
This is my best alert of DX into Lubbock, my local sign on shortly

KPTB	16 TX Lubbock	Full ID	555
KBZO-LP	51 TX Woodrow	Uni, peaking to color	558
KCBD	11 TX Lubbock	NBC News	555
0730	Had to leave, opening still alive, mostly stationary		
2300 KADN	15 LA Lafayette	weak	586

March 5

0230 KLTL	18 LA Lake Charles LPB	548	
KLPB	24 LA Lafayette	// ch 18	567
0245 KVHP	29 LA Lake Charles FOX	29 logo	530
0700	Opening still showing same channels. We got up to 96 F this day.		
2130 WNOL	38 LA New Orleans WB38	694	
K55GJ	55 TX Raymondville strong TX's Valley	160	
FTN // chs 30, 32, 67, hard to get due to XHVT-54			
2230 WVLA	33 LA Baton Rouge/B. Rouge Arena	633	
WLBP	27 LA Baton Rouge under KLDO	638	
WLAE	32 LA New Orleans	Calls, o/u K3ER 694	
2300 WCCL	49 LA New Orleans HSN	688	
WGNO	26 LA New Orleans ABC	694	
WPMI	15 AL Mobile weak, o/u KADN	838	

March 6

0100	Southwest Louisiana		
0230	B. Rouge, N. Orleans, Mobile		
	WUPL	54 LA Slidell weak	705
0530 KLAX	31 LA Alexandria ABC News, briefly		618

March 17

0200	Southwest Louisiana		
0545 WGMB	44 LA Baton Rouge o/u KLUJ	633	
0600	New Orleans		
0715 K66FI	66 LA Opelousas TBN	599	
2100	Lafayette-Baton Rouge		
2215 K69HD	69 LA Church Point KLAJ calls	586	

March 18

0030	B Rouge, sw Louisiana		
0400	KLPA	25 LA Alexandria LPB//chs 18, 24	619
	opening into Louisiana dead		
0630 KDTX	58 TX Dallas weak	518	
	KXTX	39 TX Dallas o/K39EL	518

March 19

0530	Southwest Louisiana		
0630	southwest Louisiana		
0700	KRVF-26, barometer 30.06R, humidity 100%, temp 45F		
2015	New Orleans		
2045	B Rouge, Alexandria, LA		
2100	WMPV	21 AL Mobile TBN, Calls	842
WEIQ	42 AL Mobile	APT, SAP	825
WMAH	19 MS Biloxi	Nature	770
2115 WMAU	17 MS Bude	// ch 19	697
2130 WXXV	25 MS GulfportFOX, Gulfport	adv 764	
WPAN	53 FL Fort Walton B.H. Health Scene	869	
K56DR	56 LA Baton Rouge //WMPV-21	633	
2200 W36AC	36 MS McComb	TBN	710
WAFB	9 LA Baton Rouge Full ID, local news	638	

March 20

0830 WTBC-LP	65 FL Tallahassee	Calls, TV65, Rel.1025	
W69AY	69 FL Alachua Super ch 55 w/WACX-55	1128	
The above two thanks to my wife help!, she couldn't get ID at 8:00 AM due to the usual fading at time for ID. It seems I missed an all day long opening.			
1845 WWWWB32	FL Lakeland	WB32	1135
1900 WACX	55 FL Leesburg	W69AY still in	1180
WRBW	65 FL Orlando	WB, 65 logo	1192
1915 WVEA-LP	61 FL Tampa	Univision	1104
1930 WCJB	20 FL Gainesville	ABC	1121
WTIH	49 GA Bainbridge	FOX	1029
WTTA	38 FL St. Petersburg	SAP	1116
WTVK	46 FL Naples	WB 46	1153
WZVN	26 FL Naples	ABC	1153
WOPX	56 FL Melbourne	In	1189

Western TV DX *F. Garcia's report continues*

1945 WMFE	24 FL Orlando	PBS	1191	0615 KVTH	26 AR Hot Springs	VTN	739
WOFL	35 FL Orlando	FOX //XHFOX-17	1191	0645 KMNZ	62 OK Oklahoma City/o	strong KAKW	
WBHH	20 FL Fort Myers	NBC //WVLA-33	1144	K50Bt	50 TX Ballinger	w/KMLM-42 (915) ph	
2030 WKCF	18 FL Clermont	WB, calls	1192	unid ch 69 Religious Tulsa	Tulsa	hdn	
W56CN56	FL Venice	//WWWB-32	1106	0700 KARD	14 LA West Monroe	FOX14, ne hdn	659
2045	DFW, Texas			KOKI	23 OK Tulsa	FOX, o/u KVEO & KHCE	766
2115 WAWS	30 FL Jacksonville	FOX30, loc news & wx	1179	WTTO	21 AL Homewood	21 logo	969
2145 KFWD	52 TX Fort Worth	Telemundo	522	0800 K36AB	36 OK Lawton	OETA	631
March 25				K24AD	24 TX Wichita Falls	PBS	579
0000 KINZ	68 TX Arlington	Shop at Home	518	WABM	68 AL Birmingham	o/u K68DJ	966
KHSX	49 TX Irving	HSN	518	0900 WPGD	50 TN Hendersonville	TBN	1102
KTXA	21 TX Fort Worth	UPN	518	WNAB	58 TN Nashville	700 Club	1068
KDAF	33 TX Dallas	o/XHLAT	518	thanks to Doug Smith for helping check programming			
KDFI	27 TX Dallas	o/u KLDO	518	0930 WUXP	30 TN Nashville	calls	1079
0015 KFXK	51 TX Longview	FOX ne TX hdn	557	0945 WPTY	24 TN Memphis	ABC24, Monat at 4 PM	904
Central Florida still in strong				1000 WLMT	30 TN Memphis	Calls	901
W68CF	68 FL Tampa	TBN	1099	Had to leave			
Jacksonville, FL				2000 KMPX	29 TX Decatur	Full ID	537
0030 WSWS	66 AL Opelika	Nightman	1023	2045	Extending up to Tulsa		
0045 W41BN41	AL Dothan	TBN //WJEB-59	980	2100	Gulf open to Mobile, AL		
WXTX	54 GA Columbus	area advs	1037	2145 KLTS	24 LA Shreveport	LPB	616
0100 WFTS	28 FL Tampa	28 ABC Tampa Bay	1116	KMSS	33 LA Shreveport	FOX, calls	615
0115 unid ch 46 HSS	WPCT-Panama city, FL?			2200	Tuscaloosa, AL		
0130 unid FOX 28 with Baywatch					Little Rock, AR		
0415 KLRT	16 AR Little Rock	ID Bars blasting in	782	March 26			
KASN	38 AR Pine Bluff	ID Bars, not KJTM calls	772	0130	All night mostly same areas		
Lubbock, Texas				KYPX	42 AR Little Rock	pay advs.	
KWHB	47 OK Tulsa	Joyce Meyer	765	0230	Nashville, TN		
KSBI	52 OK Oklahoma City	calls up left	692	WJFB	66 TN Lebanon	Shop at Home //KZJL-61	1093
0430 KJTL	18 TX Wichita Falls	Shop at Home	598	0515 KLDT	55 TX Lake Dallas	Shop	544
WJXX	25 FL Orange Park	Logo, wx	1163	0530 KPOB	15 MO Poplar Bluff	ABC news, calls	961
W68CM	68 FL Panama City	TBN, north FL hdn	943	KOZK	21 MO Springfield	begins progr., calls	906
0445 WGNX	46 GA Atlanta	calls, wx	1104	KDEB	27 MOSpringfield	FOX27, calls	905
WUPA	69 GA Atlanta	news	1100	KSPR	33 MOSpringfield	ABC33	906
WPGA	58 GA Perry	Calls, wx	1115	0545 WLVO	27 MS West Point	unit bars, begins 6 AM872	
WFIQ	36 AL Florence	APT, SAP	964	KLDO-27	was off for a few hours,		
0500 WIAT	42 AL Birmingham	Full ID, CBS	969	normal is 24 hours on the air			
WMGT	41 GA Macon	NBC News	1115	0600 WJSU	40 AL Anniston	ABC 33/40	992
WTJP	60 AL Gadsden	TBN	998	2115	Gulf open to Mobile, AL		
0515 WABW	14 GA Pelham	GPTV	1048	March 27			
KLFT-LP	21 LA Lafayette	VJN	592	0215 W29BH	29 MS Biloxi	TBN	757
WDCO	29 GA Cochran	GPTV //chs 14,28	1125	W39BP	39 FL Pensacola	Worship	859
WATL	36 GA Atlanta	Garfield	1104	WSRE	23 FL Pensacola	o/u KVEO	857
WHSG	63 GA Monroe	TBN	1119	0230 WJTC	44 FL Pensacola	calls, o/u KLUJ	842
KWB-J-LP	39 LA Morgan City	calls	618	0700 Albany	GA		
0530 WCOW	20 AL Montgomery	Full ID	958	Jackson	MS		
WPBA	30 GA Atlanta	SAP, PBS	1103	March 28			
WACS	25 GA Dawson	GPTV	1041	0130	LA New Orleans		
WFBI	50 TN Memphis	HSN	904	0545	AR Pine Bluff		
WCFT	33 AL Tuscaloosa	ABC 33/40	924	ne TX			
0545 KWMJ	53 OK Tulsa	Shop at Home	766	LA Shreveport			
KTLC	43 OK Oklahoma City	unit Bars, pr at 6AM	706	0630 K49DE	49 LA New Iberia	TBN	596
KTFO	41 OK Tulsa	UPN test pattern	766	K65CE	65 LA Shreveport	TBN	615
0556 WGNX-46-GA	barometer 30.32R, humidity 96%, temp 48			0700	DFW		
WGNM	64 GA Macon	area advs, mx videos	1115	0730 Tulsa	OK		
0600 KLAJ-LP	62 LA Opelousas		600	0830 KUVN-LP	31 TX Fort Worth	Univision //KLDO-27	521
W52BC	52 AL Salem	TBN	928	1945	sw LA to Mobile, AL		
KTBO	14 OK Oklahoma City	TBN u/KXAM	705	March 29			
KOKH	25 OK Oklahoma City	FOX	703	0130	N Orleans, B Rouge, DFW		

Western TV DX *F. Garcia's report concludes*

0600	TX Lubbock		
K49CD	49 TX Odessa	Telemundo	451
KMLM-42	and other area stations	blasting in	
0630 KJTV	34 TX Lubbock	w/heavy CCI to XHCNL	552
KLBK	13 TX Lubbock	Pay adv	554
0700	sw LA		
unid ch 67	educational, peak with K31DZ	w/local quality	
0730 KGLR-LP	40 TX Lubbock	calls	553
0800 KXTQ-LP	46 TX Lubbock	ID, local prog, not TMD552	
0830 K58EA	58 TX Perryton	FOX14 ID's, brief color	725
K66AB	66 TX Perryton	SMC pay adv.	
unid chs 62, 64	and 68 which match with	other Perryton translators	
2000	Gulf open to Mobile, AL		
2100 XHDH	11 YU Merida	w/XHDF-13	780
XHTP	9 YU Merida	w/XEW-2, o/u XERV	780
2145	ne TX		
March 30			
0330	sw LA to Panama city, FL		
0515	AL Birmingham		
0630 WPMI-15-AL	barometer 29.99R, humidity 100%	Mobile	855
Mobile	Iptv's		
0700	unid ch 39 with Beverly exercise		
(Oky Angel)	// WHBR-33		
0715 W31BB	31 FL Pensacola	HSS	
2130	sw LA to Fort Walton Beach, FL		
2330	dead conditions due to a cold front with dry air		
Not a bad month of March, eight new ones were			
logged. Best days were March 23-30; we had			
temperatures up to 90s F every day.			
March 98 set a new record here for best number			
of days with tropo openings in a month of March for:			
Arkansas and Georgia: 4			
Tennessee: 3			
Also best number of stations from Tennessee			
ever within a month: 7.			
73s, Fernando			
Postscript from your editor:			
TV DXers face a number of problems identifying			
DX stations which they receive. The greatest problem			
is probably that the stations identify only infrequently			
and some incorrectly.			
As editor/publisher of <i>The 50 MHz DX Bulletin</i> ,			
I receive and publish many reports of radio amateur's			
DX reception of TV video carriers, and occasionally			
of TV sound.			
Some transmissions betray their country of			
origin by their frequency, but usually there are many			
stations on the same frequency within a country or			
group of countries.			

How much information must a TV DXer have before he can count an ID for VUD listings? (Your editor is a newcomer to all this!)

The most obvious ID to me is the call letters on the screen, which may be photographed. At one time I thought that was the only ID that counted. Most program content is carried by several stations simultaneously. News and local commercials are an obvious exception. The sound is a further aid to identification, but is it sufficient by itself? Can I just tune my R-7100 to the TV audio frequencies without even knowing if a picture could be received and count that as a TV reception? Sounds more like an FM station reception, but you don't see such reports in our FM columns. How about non-broadcast TV? Like studio to transmitter links and remote trucks? Do they count? (Probably not, I don't see satellite TV reception reports here either!)

There are additional identifying parts of a TV transmission, call letters appearing in the vertical blanking interval for instance, multiplex, and second audio program (SAP). Is reception of any one of these alone sufficient?

If any of my readers has been putting off getting his feet wet, and starting TV DXing, I offer the following words of encouragement. Now (or earlier) is the time to start, before most of the UHF channels (in your area) are swallowed by digital and high definition TV.

Solar activity is increasing each month. It's still been a bit low for E-W 50 MHz F2-layer propagation (in temperate latitudes), but paths that pass over the geomagnetic equator have been open frequently: our southern states to South America, Europe to Africa, and Asia to Australia/New Zealand.

Bob Cooper, ZL4AAA, of TV DX and satellite TV fame, submitted a report after a couple year's absence. From Far North, New Zealand, during the month of March, he received TV video carriers from Queensland, Australia on 46.17 MHz, from China/USSR on 49.75 MHz, and from NSW Australia on 46.24 MHz.

I have been receiving regular reports from Stuart Kingan, ZK1AA, in the Cook Islands of Hawaiian TV station video carriers by transequatorial scatter propagation. When I questioned him about receiving either a picture or sound, he remarked that they were dispersed too greatly to view or understand.

Now I've seen some photos of TV DX, and have

heard some radio amateur signals so close to the noise

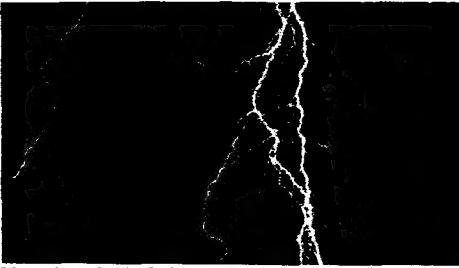
that one had to use no small amount of imagination to pull them through. I wonder how some of our more

experienced viewers would do pulling transequatorial

TV DX IDs out of the noise. I suspect that audio only

would be a lot easier than video.

Lightning--Striking Me Again and Again and Again!



-by Mike Condon

I have been hit by lightning twice directly and once it struck a tree a city block away. My system was the Channel Master 7 ft dish and the 15 ft VHF antenna with a combination Channel Master two piece amp. The system was on and we were watching UHF when the tree was hit. The RF energy was so powerful that it overloaded the front end pre-amp transistor on the VHF side and left the UHF alone. All other equipment was fine.

My first direct hit was a similar system but with separate amps. There were 3 antennas on a thirty-foot tower on top of my garage, because the village, near Chicago, had an ordinance against towers in the yard. The top antenna was a CB ground plane and was not connected to the radio. The tower was not grounded and it was not the highest structure in the neighborhood. The ground plane was vaporized. The garage door opener brain fried, a light switch in the kitchen blew off the wall, circuit boards in the FM receiver failed, the TV amps fried, both of them, and the picture tube in the 25-inch Zenith TV turned magenta. I was later able to re-tune it. The insurance company had a living fit.

Here at North Star Valley, 30 miles N of Madison WI, I placed the Strato Beam 160 ft system on line at the end of last Summer. It truly is my DXers dream come true. We built a modest house, our way, on top of a hill with an elevation of 850 ft. Brand new antennas, screened UHF dish Neil Kazaross-style, \$400.00 worth of custom-built amps by RDX Labs, and 3/4 inch hard line separate coax as used by cable TV companies. At the top of the mast there is a 1 inch, 4 ft solid copper lightning rod soldered to it above the dish with the 15 ft Channel Master VHF at the bottom.

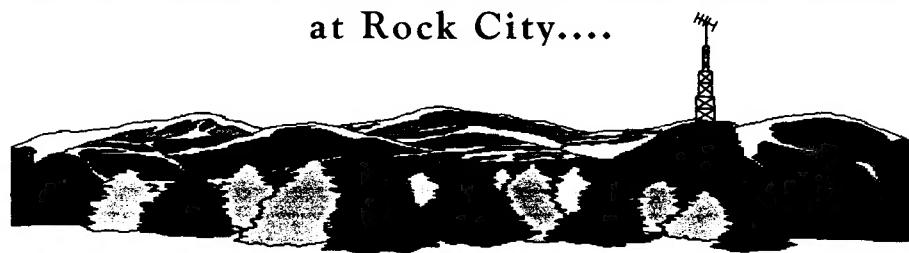
I was on my way home and had a clear view miles ahead of me when the storm, not forecasted, was in sight. I saw the long single bolt descend down from the sky...which I knew was over my hill. My heart sunk in my chest and I heard myself exclaim "Please God, I just got that system up, not now, not yet, not this soon!" When I got home, my wife Berta was having trouble hearing me speak and she had spots before her eyes. She said "...you won't believe what just happened!" I trembled with fear and I could not bring myself to ask. She was standing in the garage when the tower was struck. It is directly up-against and behind the garage and the cables came in atop the rafter, make a turn, and go into the house. The blast stunned her hearing and she said it was like standing inside a plasma ball, or that white light people see near death. I have three ground fields extending from each leg of the tower, that's one for each leg with two 8 ft ground rods on each field, the second at the end of the 10 ft run. The ground here is sandy and does not offer good grounding. Where the wires - rotor and coax - meet the house, I have quick-connect molex connectors for the rotor, a \$400.00 Yaesu. I did have the separate coax cables disconnected and the equipment in the house was still connected but turned off. The tower and all its electrical equipment was disconnected and nothing was harmed or damaged. Some kitchen outlets were dead and one breaker in the basement was tripped. I had not completed the grounding to the house system yet. It was looking for more grounding. When I related this story to Jim Dietrich at RDX, he was surprised.

My friend Bill Eckberg, also a long time member of WTFDA, once took a direct hit and was not disconnected--and lost his equipment, rotor and control box as well as the antennas. I hope I got that right, Bill.

Once a direct hit has been made, it is possible the ground enveloping the ground rods has turned to glass, making the ground system less effective or just plain no good anymore. This is why radio and TV stations will sink new ground systems every so often. Some TV stations will sink a water well and never install the pump just to use the well casing for grounding. My system is being extended to my well in the next weeks. Some people pour a salt or brine solution where the ground rods are to maintain good grounding.

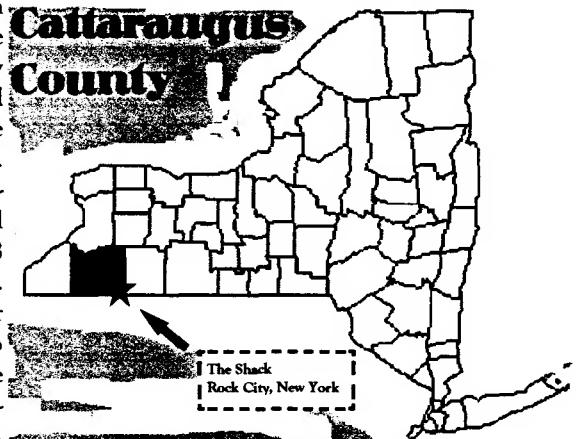
There is an excellent video shown on The Learning Channel (TLC) that explains what we know of lightning today. Several "feelers" leave the ground and reach up to meet the main bolt on its way down! One more point: it is known from Space Shuttle photos that for every 50 strikes of lightning that reach the ground, there is one that reaches up into the ionosphere. It is now being proposed that these "Sprites," as they are called, are what causes the ionization in the "E" layer, and thus, E-Skip. 73 to all and a good year coming!

Attend the 1998 WTFDA Convention in the hills of south-western New York State at Rock City....



Ho-Sta-Geh Road is only a short 7 1/2 miles from exit 26 of the "Southern Tier Expressway" (route 17) on Hartzfeld Mountain. Dx central is a rustic cabin on three wooded and quiet acres on the rim of the Allegheny Mountains. From a height of 2350 feet above sea level and with few high powered local stations; dx'ing can be quite interesting at times.

Lucia's Motel and Supper Club is the official motel for the '98 WTFDA Convention. Call early to reserve your room; space is limited to only nine (9) units. Be sure to say that your attending the WTFDA CONVENTION, July 31st, August 1st thru 2nd.



Area motels are:

**Lucia's Motel & Supper Club	9 units	rates starting at \$37/night 1-716-372-0039
De Soto (Best Western)	76 units	rates starting at \$40/night 1-800-325-0043
The Castle Inn	164 units	rates starting at \$55/night 1-800-422-7853
The Old Library Inn (B&B)	8 rooms	rates starting at \$65/night 1-716-373-9804

All rooms are based on single occupancy; add 8% NYS tax.

**The official motel of the '98 convention.

Convention registration fee, \$25.00 -- goes toward Friday evenings pizza & wings, Saturdays Banquet and snacks/drinks. Send \$1.00 for an information packet (deductible if you register) to Dave Nieman -- 12284 Nice Road -- Akron, NY 14001-9408. Packet includes convention schedule, site maps, 'Greater Olean Area Events & Activities' and 'Shop The Olean Area' guides.